

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/593,924

Examiner

Devona E. Faulk

Applicant(s)

CHRISOP ET AL.

Art Unit

2644

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/7/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4,6-9 and 13-15.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


HUYEN LE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, filed 9/7/2005, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1,4,6-9,11-17 under 013(a) , with regards to the amended claims, have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection would have been made in view 112 1st new matter issues.
2. The applicant's representative agreed to an examiner's amendment to put the claims in allowable form.
3. Claims 5 and 10 were cancelled in a previous amendment. Claim 3 was cancelled in the current amendment.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Stephen S. Ford (Reg. No. 35,139) on 12/13/2005.

The claims are amended as follows:

Claims 2,11,12,16 and 17: cancel.

Claim 1, line 8: after "of the" , delete "audio signal", insert - - speaker system - - .

Claim 1, lines 9-10: delete "independently from any impedance characteristics of the speaker cables or wireless communication channel".

Claim 1, line 13: after "amplifier", delete "automatically".

Claim 1, line 14: before "transmitting", delete "automatically".

Claim 1, line 17: insert - - wherein the communication module communicates the electrical speaker characteristic from the speaker system to the audio amplifier using two-tone modulation - - .

Claim 9, line 8: after "system", delete "," and insert - - and located said speaker housing , - - .

Claim 9, lines 13-14: delete "independently from any impedance characteristics of the wired or wireless connection".

Claim 9, line 18: after "system", replace "." with - - ; and - -.

Claim 9, line 19: insert - - including activating the communication module and communicating the electrical operating parameters back to the amplifier solely in response to receiving the rectified power without any other communication signaling from the amplifier; and

wherein transmitting information from the speaker system to the amplifier is accomplished using phase-shift keying- - .

Claim 15, line 14: after "keying", replace "." with - - ; and --.

Claim 15, line 15: insert - - wherein the communications module is a device operating inside a speaker housing that contains the speaker hardware, the communications module controlling generation of the static characteristics while

providing high impedance at frequencies within an audio range of the speaker system;
and

wherein the communications module starts transmitting the static characteristics of the speaker system back to the amplifier over the speaker connector when the module is powered on without any further communication messaging or prompting from the amplifier.

Reasons For Allowance

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Prior art Mietling (US 6,385,322) discloses a method and device for operation of a public address acoustic irradiation system. Prior art Konno et al. (US 6,282,296) discloses an audio reproducing apparatus. Prior art Levy et al. (US 6,766,025) discloses intelligent speaker training using microphone feedback and preloaded templates Prior art Gulick (US 5,818,948) discloses architecture for a universal serial bus-based PC speaker controller. Prior art Bryant (US 4,103,235) discloses two-tone attention signal broadcasting system. Prior art Astrin et al. (US 6,639,990) discloses a low power full duplex wireless link. Prior art Anderson et al. (US 5,406,634) discloses an intelligent speaker unit for speaker system network. The prior art fails to disclose or make obvious a communications module, located in a speaker enclosure and coupled to the an audio amplifier, that solely in response to being power by a signal form an audio amplifier and without further communication from the amplifier, generates information that identifies electrical speaker characteristics and transmits the electrical characteristic information back to the audio amplifier, wherein the communication module provides high

impedance at frequencies within an audible range of the speaker system and wherein the communication module communicates or transmits the electrical characteristics from the speaker system to the audio amplifier using either two-tone modulation or phase-shift keying. Therefore, the prior art fails to disclose or make obvious the system and a method for operating a sound system as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Devona E. Faulk whose telephone number is 571-272-7515. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 am - 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivian Chin can be reached on 571-272-7848. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2644

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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PRIMARY EXAMINER